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By: **Garrett County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2003

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Garrett County - Animal Control - Civil and Criminal Penalties**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing that the County Commissioners of Garrett County  
4 may impose civil penalties for violations of certain animal control ordinances in  
5 Garrett County; authorizing the County Commissioners in Garrett County to  
6 provide for the prosecution of a violation of certain animal control ordinances in  
7 a certain manner and to a certain extent; providing that a certain criminal  
8 penalty does not apply in Garrett County; and generally relating to civil and  
9 criminal penalties for violations of certain animal control ordinances in Garrett  
10 County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article 24 - Political Subdivisions - Miscellaneous Provisions  
13 Section 11-504(o) and 11-509  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article 24 - Political Subdivisions - Miscellaneous Provisions**

19 11-504.

20 (o) (1) In addition to and not in substitution for any powers granted under  
21 this subtitle, the county commissioners of Dorchester, Garrett, and Somerset counties  
22 may by ordinance provide for a comprehensive system for the regulation of dogs and  
23 cats within the county, including licensing and control. These regulations may include  
24 provision for the impounding and disposal of unlicensed or dangerous dogs and cats  
25 and penalties, including in Dorchester County AND GARRETT COUNTY civil or  
26 criminal penalties, for violations of any of the provisions of the regulations.

27 (2) In Dorchester County AND GARRETT COUNTY, the County  
28 Commissioners may provide that a violation of a county dog or cat control ordinance

1 shall be prosecuted by the county in the same manner and to the same extent as  
2 provided for municipal infractions under Article 23A, § 3(b) of the Code.

3 11-509.

4 (a) Any person violating or refusing to comply with any of the provisions of  
5 this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than \$5 nor more  
6 than \$25 or shall be imprisoned in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or shall  
7 be both fined and imprisoned. The State's Attorney and the sheriffs of the several  
8 counties shall prosecute all persons found violating the law by refusing to comply with  
9 its provisions.

10 (b) In Calvert County the fine is \$50 or 60 days.

11 (c) This subtitle does not apply to the City of Baltimore, the City of  
12 Cambridge, or the City of Crisfield.

13 (d) This section does not apply in Washington County.

14 (e) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY IN GARRETT COUNTY.

15 (F) This section does not apply to a violation of § 11-512, § 11-513, or § 11-514  
16 of this subtitle.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
18 October 1, 2003.